AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments, comprising:

an updatable system database;

an updatable offering inventory database which receives real time price and quantity information pertaining to each financial instrument from a market data feed; and

a system proprietor operative to ~~for at least one of:~~

~~perform a function selected from the group consisting of~~ determining a national best bid and offer price, and a derived price for each financial instrument in the offering inventory, and ~~wherein the system proprietor is further~~ applying a price improvement process to a trade in the event that an offsetting trade occurs, ~~and~~

the system proprietor further operative to update the system database and the offering inventory to reflect transactions executed by the system.

2. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, further comprising means for canceling or revising orders.

3. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, wherein the system notifies a user that an order has been executed by the system.

4. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, further comprising means for allowing a user to manually update the offering inventory.

5. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, further comprising means for automatically updating the offering inventory.

6. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, comprising updating the national best bid and offer price or the derived price of a financial instrument in the offering inventory.

7. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, wherein the market data feed is provided by at least one Interdealer Broker.

8. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 7, wherein the market data feed is reformatted to record-based data prior to entry into the system.

9. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, further comprising a filter process for removing incorrect market data from the offering inventory.

10. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, wherein the derived price is calculated by:

(a) determining the captured spread between a last transaction price and a desired transaction benchmark for a financial instrument;

(b) determining the current existing price of the desired benchmark; and

(c) adding the captured spread to the current existing price.

11. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, wherein the system proprietor generates a confirmation of the executed order.

12. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 1, wherein the system allows the user to manually enter interfirm or dealer to dealer trades for execution.

13. (original): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero Coupon Strip financial instruments as recited in claim 12, wherein the system automatically updates the offering inventory in accordance with the manual trade.

14. (currently amended): A computer-implemented system for automated trading of high liquidity financial instruments, comprising

a computerized workstation for executing trades;

a system processor for processing information pertaining to ~~user~~ at least one investor position, an updating offering inventory, and real time market data for at least one of U.S. Treasury, Liquid Agency, and Zero-Coupon STRIP financial instruments; and

a system proprietor for determining a national best bid and offer price, the system proprietor operative ~~for at least one of:~~ to ~~perform a function selected from the group consisting of~~ convert~~ing~~ the national best bid and offer price to a derived price in the event the national best bid and offer price is not available, and apply ~~wherein the system proprietor is further providing a customer with~~ an improved bid and offer price in the event that an offsetting trade occurs, whereby the system proprietor executes automatic trades at the national best bid and offer price or the derived price on orders entered into the system.

15. (currently amended): A data processing method for the automatic execution of high liquidity financial instruments, comprising:

storing information pertaining to an investor's ~~customer and user~~ position and an offering inventory, the offering inventory including a real time market data feed;

receiving at least one trade order; ~~and at least one of:~~

executing trade orders based on a national best bid and offer price or a derived price in the event the national best bid and offer price is not available; ~~and~~

applying a price improvement process to the national best bid and offer price or the derived price in the event that an offsetting trade occurs; and

updating the investor's position to reflect the executed trade.